

CLAIMS

1. A cosmetic and/or dermatological formulation comprising at least two active materials in a multiple emulsion consisting of an internal aqueous phase dispersed in an internal oily phase, the whole being dispersed in an external aqueous phase; the multiple emulsion being optionally mixed with a simple emulsion consisting of an external oily phase dispersed in an external aqueous phase:
- o the internal oily phase comprising at least one nonionic surfactant and/or at least one amphiphilic polymer and optionally at least one hydrophobic active material;
 - o the external aqueous phase comprising at least one nonionic surfactant and/or at least one nonionic amphiphilic polymer optionally combined with at least one anionic amphiphilic polymer or comprising at least one anionic amphiphilic polymer optionally combined with at least one anionic surfactant;
 - o at least one hydrophilic active material which is present in the internal aqueous phase; and
 - o at least one active material which is present in a soluble or solubilized form or in the form of a solid dispersed in the external aqueous phase, or which is present in the external oily phase.
2. The formulation as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the surfactant and/or the polymer present in the internal oily phase are chosen from those which simultaneously satisfy the two conditions below:
- when they are mixed with the internal oily phase, at a concentration between 0.1 and 10% by weight of said phase at 25°C, they are in the form of a

solution in the whole or part of the concentration range indicated;

- when they are mixed with the internal aqueous phase, at a concentration between 0.1 and 10% by weight of said phase and at 25°C, they are in the form of a dispersion in the whole or part of the concentration range indicated.

3. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the quantity of nonionic surfactant and/or nonionic amphiphilic polymer represents 2 to 10% by weight of the internal aqueous phase.

4. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the content of hydrophilic active material present in the internal aqueous phase is between 0.1 and 50% by weight of the internal aqueous phase, and preferably between 0.1 and 20% by weight of the internal aqueous phase.

5. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the inverse emulsion has an aqueous phase/oily phase weight ratio of between 10/90 and 90/10, preferably between 30/70 and 80/20.

6. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the internal aqueous phase comprises at least one additive chosen from salts such as alkali or alkaline-earth metal halides, alkali or alkaline-earth metal sulfates, from sugars, or polysaccharides, or mixtures thereof.

7. The formulation as claimed in the preceding claim, characterized in that the concentration of salt in the internal aqueous phase is between 0.05 and 1 mol/l, preferably 0.1 to 0.4 mol/l and/or the concentration of sugar and/or polysaccharide is such that the osmotic

pressure of the internal aqueous phase comprising the sugar and/or the polysaccharide corresponds to the osmotic pressure of an internal aqueous phase comprising 0.05 to 1 mol/l of salt.

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8. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the surfactant and/or the polymer present in the external aqueous phase are chosen from those which simultaneously satisfy the two conditions below:

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- when they are mixed with the external aqueous phase, at a concentration between 0.1 and 10% by weight of said phase at 25°C, they are in the form of a solution in the whole or part of the concentration range indicated;

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- when they are mixed with the internal oily phase, at a concentration between 0.1 and 10% by weight of said phase and at 25°C, they are in the form of a dispersion in the whole or part of the concentration range indicated.

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9. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the external aqueous phase comprises at least one thermothickening polymer.

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10. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the thermothickening polymer is chosen from polymers exhibiting a rise in viscosity between 25 and 80°C such that the value of the $\log_{10}(\text{viscosity at } 80^{\circ}\text{C})/\log_{10}(\text{viscosity at } 25^{\circ}\text{C})$ ratio is at least equal to at least 1.

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11. The formulation as claimed in either of claims 9 and 10, characterized in that the thermothickening polymer content is between 0.2 and 10% by weight of the external aqueous phase, preferably between 1 and 5% by weight of the external aqueous phase.

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12. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the external aqueous phase comprises at least one thickening polymer.

5 13. The formulation as claimed in the preceding claim, characterized in that the content of thickening polymer is between 0.1 and 2% by weight relative to the external aqueous phase, preferably between 0.1 and 0.5% by weight relative to the external aqueous phase.

10 14. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the weight ratio of inverse emulsion in relation to the external aqueous phase in the multiple emulsion is between 30/70 and
15 90/10, preferably between 50/50 and 90/10.

15 15. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the osmotic pressures of the external aqueous phase and of the internal aqueous
20 phase are balanced by adding to the external aqueous phase at least one additive chosen from salts such as alkali or alkaline-earth metal halides, alkali or alkaline-earth metal sulfates, or chosen from sugars or alternatively from polysaccharides, or mixtures
25 thereof.

16. The formulation as claimed in the preceding claim, characterized in that the dispersed external oily phase represents 1 to 50% by weight of the external aqueous
30 phase, preferably 5 to 25% by weight of the external aqueous phase.

17. The formulation as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the external aqueous
35 phase comprises at least one dispersed solid.

18. The formulation as claimed in the preceding claim, characterized in that the dispersed solid represents 1

to 50% by weight of the external aqueous phase,
preferably 5 to 25% by weight of the external aqueous
phase.

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